AUTOMATIC SIGNALLING

USING 145C CONTACTOR

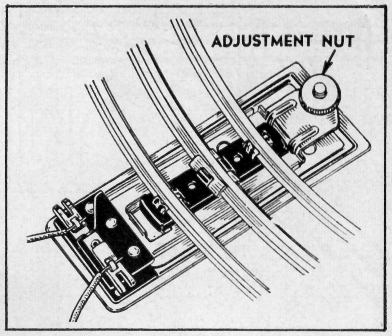

Figure 33—How to Install 145C Contactor

Model railroad signals and trackside accessories made by Lionel are usually operated automatically by means of "contactors" actuated by a passing train. Some of the contactors are worked mechanically by the weight of the train. Others are operated electrically by the train wheels making an electrical contact with the contactor surface.

No. 145C Contactor is an "Off-On" electrical switch operated by the weight of the train and is furnished with No. 151 Semaphore, No. 145 Gateman and No. 252 Crossing Gate. Place the contactor underneath the track so that one track tie rests firmly on the lever plate of the contactor. If placed under curve, the adjustment nut should be toward the center. Do not fasten down the track for several sections on either side of the contactor because the track must remain free to bend under the weight of the train. Then make the wire connections shown in the diagrams. After all connections are made and transformer power is on, adjust the contactor. With the train stopped on the track several sections away from the contactor, turn the adjustment nut either way until the signal operates, then turn the nut back just enough to return the signal to its normal non-operating position. By varying the tension of the adjustment nut the signal can be made to respond either to the weight of the heavy locomotive or to the lightest car.

No. 252 CROSSING GATE

This accessory is connected to No. 145C contactor and transformer as shown in Figure 34. The order of wires connected to contactor does not matter. Note method for removing lamp bracket from base of Crossing Gate.

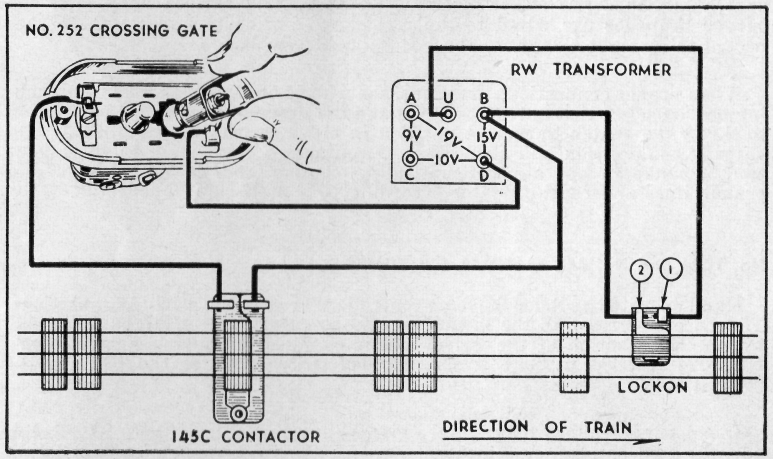

Figure 34—Connections for No. 252 Crossing Gate

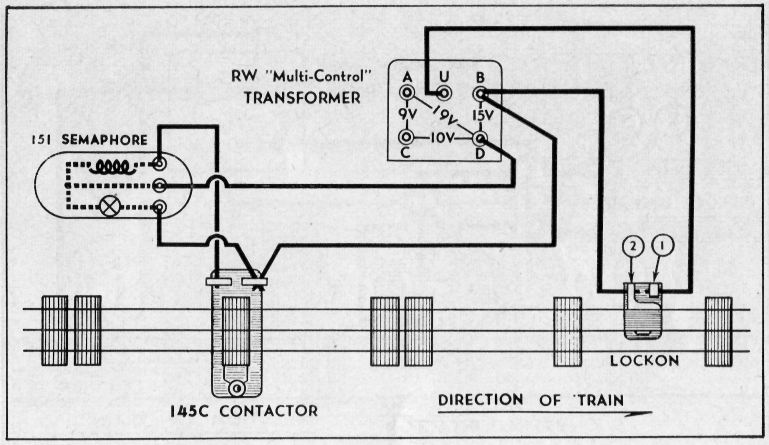

Figure 35—Connections for No. 151 Semaphore

No. 145 GATEMAN and No. 151 SEMAPHORE

The two signals illustrated on this page are wired in a similar way. Note that three wires go to each accessory, one to the lamp, one to the operating coil and the third to the "ground" side of both the lamp and the coil. The lamp wire is connected to the right-hand or bottom contact of the 154C contactor, while the coil wire is connected to the left-hand or top contact.

To make connections to the 145 Gateman the roof of the hut must be lifted off. To get at the lamp for replacement, the spring lamp bracket must be lifted up as shown by dotted lines.

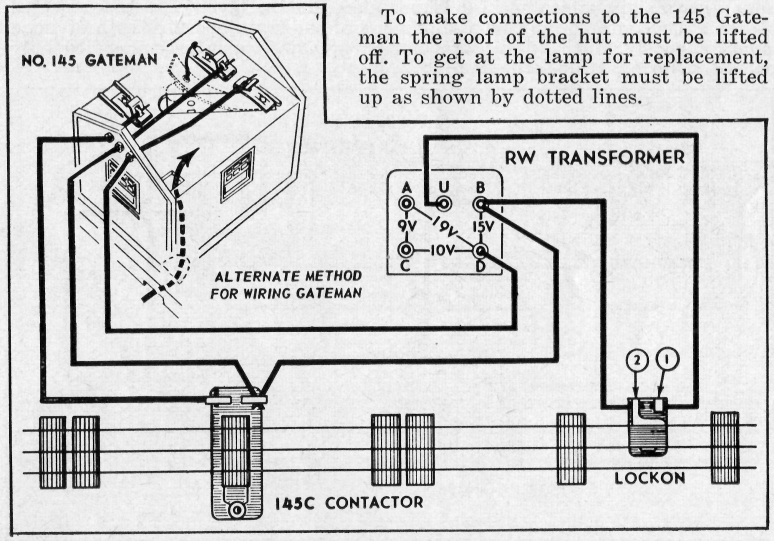

Figure 36—Connections for No. 145 Gateman